


**From:** Governor Deval L. Patrick <constituent.service@state.ma.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 04, 2012 1:00 PM  
**To:** Hanchett, James (DPH)  
**Subject:** FY2013 Budget

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Dear Colleague,

As you know, economic growth has slowed across the country. The uncertainty surrounding the fiscal cliff and the national debt crisis is keeping many in the private sector from creating jobs at the kind of pace we need. And Massachusetts is feeling the effects.


As a result of several months of lower-than-expected state revenue collections, we must revise the FY13 revenue estimate downward. We start today on a plan to close a \$540 million budget gap for the year.

It begins with a \$225 million reduction in Executive Branch spending. These "9C" cuts mean that a number of new investments in personnel, projects and programs will be reduced or eliminated, across a range of government services. To spread the burden, I am proposing similar 1% reductions in the budgets of the Judiciary, Constitutional Officers and other non-Executive departments, and a 1% across the board reduction to unrestricted local aid. We also propose to make an additional draw of \$200 million from our rainy day fund. For more information on the fiscal action plan and how it impacts your agencies, please go to [www.mass.gov/anf](http://www.mass.gov/anf).

Even with these adjustments, virtually all impacted programs and services are receiving no less funding than last year. And most important of all, we are still making record investments in education, innovation and infrastructure – a proven strategy to grow jobs, attract private sector investment and, above all, make Massachusetts better for this generation and the ones that follow.

Thank you for all that you do to help us fulfill that generational responsibility. I know today's actions will make your role in public service more challenging at a time when you are already doing more with less. But just as we have throughout the course of this Administration, we face our challenges head-on and work together for the greater good. The mission – and my appreciation of you – is unchanged.

Sincerely,

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